Appl. No. 09/851,456 Amdt. Dated May 29, 2003 Reply to Office Action of March 28, 2003

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

## Listing of the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A <u>stackable</u>, uniform snack piece having a dip containment region for containing a dip-condiment, said snack piece comprising:

a) a body curved about a first axis, said curvature of said body forming a dip containment region having an open end and wherein said first axis is not parallel to a side of said body, whereby said curved body restricts a dip held on said snack piece from flowing off out of the dip containment region of said snack piece in at least two directions.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said snack piece having <u>further comprises</u> a vertical span <del>and an engagement span that is 90% of said vertical span</del>.

Claim 3 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said curved body of said snack piece forms substantially two side walls adjacent to said containment region at said open end, whereby preventing the dip from flowing over said side walls at said open end and off of said snack piece.

Claim 4 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said first axis is perpendicular to said open end.

Claim 5 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said snack piece is triangular-shaped.

Claim 6 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 5, wherein said snack piece is isosceles shaped.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A snack piece according to claim 6, wherein said axis is perpendicular to at least one said side base of said isosceles triangle.

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Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A snack piece according to claim 5, wherein said snack piece is an equilateral triangle.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said snack piece when held in a tilted position greater than  $0^{\circ}$ , said restricted end restricts flow through said restricted end and off out of the dip containment region of said snack piece.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said snack piece has a length (L) from about 30 mm to about 110 mm.

Claim 11 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said snack piece has a radius of curvature used to form said snack piece from about 15 mm to about 500 mm.

Ciaim 12 (Currently Amended) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said snack piece has a vertical taper [is] between about 0° to about 45°.

Claim 13 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said snack piece is placed in a nested arrangement with a plurality of said snack piece.

Claim 14 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 13, wherein said snack pieces in said nested arrangement are consistent.

Claim 15 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said open end has a width from about 15 mm to about 75 mm.

Claim 16 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said restricted end is less than about 75% of the width of said open end.

Claim 17 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said curvature of said snack piece has a varying radius of curvature along the length of said snack piece.

Claim 18 (Original) A snack piece according to claim 1, wherein said snack piece is a segment of a right cone.

Claims 19-21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (New) A snack piece according to claim 2 wherein the snack piece comprises an engagement span measurable at no more than about 90% of the vertical span.

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Claim 23 (New) A snack piece according to claim 7 wherein said side of said isosceles triangle that is perpendicular to said axis is a base of said isosceles triangle.